

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-42 are pending in this application. Claims 16-26 and 30-42 are allowed. Claims 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent 6,630,658 to Bohnert et al. (herein "Bohnert").

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 16-26 and 30-42.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Bohnert, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

Independent claim 27 is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, independent claim 27 now recites similar features from allowed independent claim 16, and particularly further recites:

making one or more pieces of a doped matrix and a non-doped matrix; and

assembling the one or more pieces to obtain an active lasing medium including one or more non-homogeneously doped zones in the active lasing medium, which are surrounded by a non-doped region forming a remainder of the active lasing medium and that has practically no dopant or no dopant at all,

wherein at least one of a dimension of said doped zones and a distribution of dopants is chosen based on a desired transverse mode of an optical cavity.

The above-noted features are believed to clearly distinguish over Bohnert.

The outstanding rejection cites Bohnert to teach making one or more pieces of a doped matrix 3 and a non-doped matrix 5a,b. However, as shown in the figures of Bohnert, Bohnert does not disclose or suggest any type of assembly to create one or more non-homogeneously doped zones surrounded by a non-doped region forming a remainder of the active lasing medium. In fact, in Bohnert the pieces 3 and 5a,b are linearly placed together. Thus, amended independent claim 27, and claims 28 and 29 dependent therefrom, are believed to clearly distinguish over the teachings in Bohnert.

In view of these foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit that claims 27-29 now also recite allowable subject matter.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

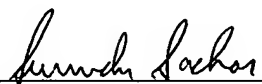
Respectfully submitted,

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